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PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS.

UNITED STATES.

[Reports to the Surgeon-General, Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service.]

Stegomyia calopus adopted as the official name for the yellow fever mosquito.

The following statement has been furnished by Ch. W. Stiles, Chief of the Division of Zoology, Hygienic Laboratory:

Prof. R. Blanchard, president of the International Commission of Zoological Nomenclature, has recently shown that according to the International Rules, the name *Stegomyia fasciata*, commonly used for the yellow fever mosquito, should be changed to *Stegomyia calopus*. The reasons for this change are as follows:

Culex fasciatus was first used in 1789 and later in 1804, for a mosquito which is not identical with the yellow fever mosquito. In 1805, this name was first used for the yellow fever mosquito, but improperly so, because of its use in 1789 and 1804 for a different species.

Culex calopus Meigen, 1818, is the first name properly proposed for the yellow fever mosquito and this upon transfer to the genus *Stegomyia* becomes *Stegomyia calopus* (Meigen, 1818; Blanchard, 1905).

The points at issue (Law of Priority and Rule of Homonyms) are given in articles 25, 31, 35, and 36 of the International Code (see Bulletin 24, Hygienic Laboratory, Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service).

NOTE.—The name *Stegomyia calopus*, instead of *Stegomyia fasciata*, will be hereafter used in the Public Health Reports in designating the yellow fever mosquito. The Bureau of Entomology, Department of Agriculture, has also adopted the name *Stegomyia calopus*.

Observations on the life cycle of Stegomyia calopus.

The following is received from Passed Assistant Surgeon Francis, at Mobile, Ala., under date of March 25, as follows:

The following observations made at Mobile, on the life cycle of *Stegomyia calopus*, cover one year of study:

April 13, 1906. I found in a house yard a metal tank containing 8 inches of rain water in which were several hundred larvæ, which I took away with me and which developed into adult mosquitoes.

During May, June, July, August, September, October, and November the larvæ were found throughout the city without difficulty in the water containers in the yards.

December 23, 1906. On the horse trough there was a layer of ice $\frac{3}{16}$ inch in thickness. The water in 2 tubs under a neighboring shed was not frozen, and I removed from them larvæ, which developed at room temperature into adult mosquitoes.

December 24, 1906. Ice on the horse trough $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick.

January 6, 1907. Seventeen larvæ found in the saucer of a flowerpot in a living room of the hospital. These larvæ, which were large and healthy, were placed in a jar in the ice box in a compartment under the ice where the temperature was about 50°. They were supplied with food. At the end of twelve days all were dead, none of them having passed the larval stage.

January 16. Found plenty of larvæ in 3 rain barrels. Found larvæ in black jug.

January 18, 1907. Larvæ found in rain barrel.

January 19, 1907. Larvæ found in 3 kegs, 1 tub, and 2 barrels, all of which contained rain water.

During February I found no larvæ, but Dr. R. H. Peters, formerly acting assistant surgeon, reported to me that he found them in rain barrels. In February I hatched out eggs which had remained dry for six and one-half months.

March 17 Doctor Peters brought me a bottle of larvæ which he collected from a barrel.

The above observations cover a year's investigation, and during each month of the twelve just passed there were found in rain barrels in Mobile the larvæ which developed into adult mosquitoes.

In this connection I wish to report that the larvæ were found in 15 instances in brown jugs standing in the yards.

The larvæ were never found breeding in the unpaved street gutters or ponds, or, in fact, in any natural earth bottoms, but were always in artificial water containers.

The following experimental data are submitted to show that the eggs may remain viable for six and one-half months when kept dry:

Eggs were laid on the surface of the water in a jar on August 16, 1906. The jar was then tilted so that the eggs were left on the sides of the jar, above the level of the water. The jar was then set aside in a wardrobe in a room which had no fire in it all winter and the doors and windows were open day and night.

On October 15 I scraped off some of the eggs, put them in water, and in sixteen hours they had hatched; the larvæ developed into adult mosquitoes.

On February 27, 1907, I added enough water to the jar to cover the eggs and raised it to a temperature of 80°; seventeen hours later two dozen larvæ had hatched; later in the day another dozen had hatched.

March 6: 9 pupæ.

March 7: 16 pupæ.

March 8: 10 adults.

March 11: 16 males dead on surface of water; 5 females fed on blood; 16 females alive; 4 males alive.

March 12: 10 fed blood.

March 13: 3 fed blood.

March 14: 50 eggs laid.

March 15: 50 eggs laid.

March 16: 7 females and 2 males alive.

March 17: 1 fed blood.

March 18: 4 fed blood.

March 19: 2 fed blood.

March 20: 6 females and 2 males alive; about 100 larvæ in jar; 100 eggs removed from surface of water and dried on paper.

March 23: 1 fed blood; 115 eggs removed and dried on paper.

This experiment shows that the eggs which were kept dry at practically outdoor temperature from August 16 to February 27 were still viable, and when covered with water and kept at 80°, developed by March 8 into adults which on March 14 laid eggs which hatched into about 100 larvæ on March 20, thus completing the life cycle.

Eggs which are now being dried will be tested for viability one year hence.

Report from Vanceboro, Me.—Smallpox on Canadian border—Train inspection.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Young reports, March 25, as follows:

Week ended March 23, 1907. Inspected 18 passenger trains carrying about 900 passengers; vaccinated 48.

Cumberland County, Nova Scotia, and Cape Breton are reported free from smallpox. A few cases exist in Pictou and Colchester counties, but in both counties the situation is under control; in Digby and Yarmouth counties there have been no new cases for ten days.

STATISTICAL REPORTS OF MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY, STATES AND CITIES OF THE UNITED STATES—UNTABULATED.

CALIFORNIA—*Berkeley.*—Year ended December 31, 1906. Estimated population, 26,000. Total number of deaths, 366, including diphtheria 8, enteric fever 8, measles 1, and 32 from tuberculosis. Cases of contagious diseases reported: Diphtheria 65, enteric fever 59, measles 110, scarlet fever 7, smallpox 2, whooping cough 19, and tuberculosis 7.

FLORIDA.—Reports to the State board of health for the week ended March 23, 1907, show as follows: Enteric fever—*Braidentown,* 1 case; *Jacksonville,* 1 case; *Kathleen,* 1 case; *Manatee,* 1 case; *Plant City,* 1 case; *Tampa,* 1 case. Smallpox—*Madison,* 1 case; Tuberculosis—*Jacksonville,* 1 case; *Lemon City,* 1 case; *Tallahassee,* 1 case; *Tampa* and *Ybor City,* 5 cases.

ILLINOIS.—Month of November, 1906. Reports to the State board of health show as follows: Total number of deaths, 5,080, including diphtheria 111, enteric fever 127, measles 12, scarlet fever 49, whooping cough 29, and 647 from tuberculosis. Month of December, 1906: Total number of deaths, 7,725, including diphtheria 146, enteric fever 150, measles 48, scarlet fever 128, whooping cough 50, and 936 from tuberculosis.

MINNESOTA.—Month of January, 1907. Estimated population, 1,979,658. Reports to the State board of health show as follows: Total number of deaths, 1,345, including diphtheria 14, enteric fever